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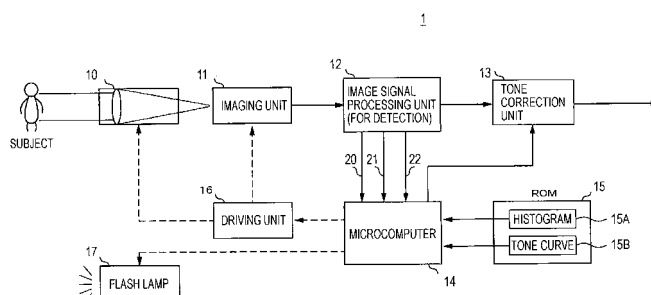
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(54) **Apparatus, method and computer program for taking an image and apparatus, method and computer program for processing an image**

(57) An imaging apparatus includes an imaging unit configured to take an image of a subject, a histogram producing unit configured to produce a histogram of the image data, a tone correction unit configured to make a tone correction on the image data, a feature histogram table including a plurality of feature histograms respectively corresponding to a plurality of reference image patterns, an input-output characteristic table including a plurality of input-output characteristics respectively corresponding to the plurality of feature histograms, an input-

output characteristic adjustment unit configured to calculate the similarity of the histogram produced by the histogram producing unit with respect to each feature histogram, select an input-output characteristic according to the calculated similarity, and adjust the selected input-output characteristic in accordance with the similarity, wherein the tone correction unit is configured to make the tone correction based on the input-output characteristic adjusted by the input-output characteristic adjustment unit.

FIG. 1





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 25 January 2008	Examiner Lauri, Lauro
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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